

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 IO-10 OIC-02 CCO-00 CIAE-00

OTPE-00 FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 USIA-06 COME-00

BIB-01 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04

OES-03 NASA-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /085 W

----- 086379

R 051733Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3528

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEC, IMCO

SUBJ: INMARSAT - ISWG MEETING

REF: STATE 173890, 173891

1. FIRST SESSION OF INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP (ISWG) ESTABLISHED BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON MARITIME SATELLITES CONVENED AUGUST 4 AT IMCO HEADQUARTERS. TWENTY-FOUR COUNTRIES REPRESENTED INCLUDING ALL MAJOR PARTICIPANTS AT INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE. MEXICO IS ONLY ISWG PARTICIPANT WHICH WAS NOT PRESENT AT EARLIER CONFERENCE.

2. AFTER BRIEF OPENING REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN (DAMLE, INDIA) AND IMCO SEC GEN, AGENDA AS PROPOSED ISWG I/1 ADOPTED WITHOUT CHANGE, AND MEETING ADJOURNED TO PERMIT CHAIRMAN TO CONVENE HEADS OF DELEGATIONS. IMPORTANT OUTCOME LATTER MEETING WAS ACCEPTANCE WITHOUT DEBATE OF FRENCH PROPOSAL THAT ISWG WORK ON BASIS TWO AGREEMENT STRUCTURE. FURTHER, THERE WAS NO DISSENT FROM PRINCIPLES SET OUT IN PACKAGE DEAL ALTHOUGH ALL DELEGATIONS RESERVE AN EXACT TEXT.

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TIONS RESERVE AN EXACT TEXT.

3. FRG TEXT HAS NOT BEEN INTRODUCED AND WILL NOT BE. ISWG I/3 IS INTENDED TO TAKE ITS PLACE. U.S. DEL HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN TO ALL EUROPEAN DELS THAT ISWG I/3 LESS SUITABLE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK THAN FRG TEXT WHICH WAS BASIS JULY 21, 22 EUROPEAN-U.S. TALKS IN WASHINGTON. IT IS APPARENT THAT EUROPEANS ARE IN DISARRAY, I.E., THERE IS NO AGREEMENT IN EUROPE ON SEYERSTED'S REVISIONS SUBSTANTIVELY OR EVEN HIS AUTHORITY TO HAVE MADE AND SUBMITTED SUCH REVISIONS. IT SEEMS THAT EUROPEANS HAVE DECIDED EACH DELEGATION MAY SUGGEST ANY AMENDMENTS TO ISWG I/3 IT WISHES. U.S. HAS STATED IT WILL FIND IT NECESSARY TO MAKE NUMEROUS PROPOSALS TO AMEND ISWG I/3, INCLUDING THE REALIGNMENT OF ARTICLES AS BETWEEN THE TWO AGREEMENTS, AND REQUESTED MARSAT CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS 5/3 AND 5/4 (U.S. NOTES) BE DISTRIBUTED TO FACILITATE EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

4. USSR DEL ACTIVELY SOUGHT MEETING WITH U.S. BEFORE MEETING OPENED AND HAS REQUESTED FREQUENT CONSULTATIONS AND STATED DESIRE TO WORK COOPERATIVELY WITH U.S. USSR INDICATED PRIVATELY IT WAS PREPARED TO ACCEPT U.S. FORMULATION ON DESIGNATED ENTITY CONCEPT AND ITS EMBODIMENT IN TWO AGREEMENTS. SOVIETS INDICATED THEY PREPARED TO ACCEPT WEIGHTED VOTE IN COUNCIL IF U.S. AND EUROPEANS FIRMLY SUPPORT THAT PROPOSITION. IN DOING SO, IT APPEARS THEY ACCEPT FACT USG WILL NOT ITSELF GUARANTEE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF SIGNATORY TO OPERATING AGREEMENT. SOVIETS ARE SEEKING, HOWEVER, EXPLICIT ASSURANCE IN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT (WHICH THEY PREFER TO CALL A CONVENTION) THAT GOVERNMENTS WILL ASSURE THE PERFORMANCE BY SIGNATORIES OF GOVERNMENTAL SAFETY OBLIGATIONS. IN U.S. DEL JUDGMENT, SOVIETS VERY UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THEIR ISOLATED POSITION, ALTHOUGH IT

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R 051733Z AUG 75

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WILL TAKE SEVERAL DAYS OF PLENARY AND OTHER DISCUSSION TO ASCERTAIN EXTENT TO WHICH USSR DEL WILL ACTUALLY ENDORSE U.S. POSITIONS.

5. EUROPEANS STILL BELIEVE ONLY OBSTACLE TO CONCLUDING INMARSAT AGREEMENTS IS INABILITY TO RECONCILE US-USSR DIFFICULTIES AND HAVE URGED WE CONTINUE TO MEET SOVIETS FREQUENTLY.

6. AFTERNOON PLENARY AUGUST 4 MET FOR SHORT SESSION TO DISCUSS PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING ELEMENTS OF PACKAGE. THERE WAS ONLY MINIMAL COMMENT, NONE OF IT NEGATIVE. DRAFTING PARTY OF THE WHOLE CREATED (STANFORD, CANADA, CHAIRMAN) TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC TEXTS FOR RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS AND DESIGNATED ENTITIES AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF POWERS BETWEEN THE ASSEMBLY AND COUNCIL (AGENDA ITEMS 1(A) AND (B)). IN THIS REGARD U.S. WILL SUBMIT ITS PROPOSAL ON WITHDRAWAL SINCE CHAIRMAN OF WORKING PARTY IDENTIFIED THIS AS KEY PART OF AGENDA
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ITEM 1.

7. SINCE THERE IS INTERPRETATION FACILITY FOR ONLY ONE MEETING IT IS NOT NOW CONTEMPLATED TO ESTABLISH A SECOND WORKING PARTY TO EXAMINE PROCUREMENT TEXT.

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